

3 August 1970

25X1 [redacted]
New York

25X1 Dear Mrs. [redacted]

25X1 [redacted] sent me a copy of the letter you received
25X1 from [redacted] of Oakland, California, asking if you
could give him some background on your OSS experience.

25X1 [redacted] once worked for the Agency for a short time
and then left to do research at the University of California for
a thesis dealing with OSS. This project has no official con-
nection with, or blessing by, the Agency. However, [redacted] 25X1
came to Washington, and I talked to him for some time as did
John Bross. He is an interesting, young fellow, who has done
a great deal of work and talked to a great many ex-OSSers. He
has already done one portion of his thesis, which he gave us.
Surprisingly enough, it is designed to develop a thesis that OSS
was a contributor to liberal programs, including anticolonialism.
As you know, OSS was such a varied and diverse group that you
can make almost any case you want for it.

I have informed [redacted] 25X1 that he cannot have access to
the OSS Archives but that in general we had no objection to his
talking to people if they wanted to discuss their experiences with
him and thought that there was no security involved at this late
date. Therefore, it really depends on what you personally want
to do. I, of course, remember some of the aspects of your story
and do not believe there is any great security problem now. If

you want to correspond with him, we would have no objection, but we certainly are not supporting it either. He is entirely on his own and indeed makes no pretense of having any official backing. In other words, he seems responsible and hard working and doing this out of the plain interest in the project.

Sincerely,

s/

Lawrence R. Houston
General Counsel

cc:

[Redacted]

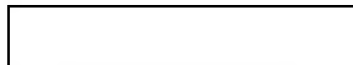
Mr. John Bross

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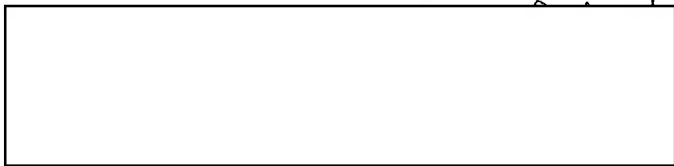
25X1



OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94610

25X1

July 11, 1970



25X1

Dear Mrs. [redacted]

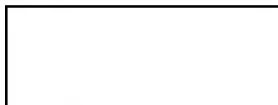
25X1

I am now working on a book dealing with the Office of Strategic Services, to be published by the University of California Press. [redacted] I understand that you served with the OSS, and I would be grateful if you would assist me in my research.

It would be most helpful to me if I could see a brief summary of your OSS experience, including general dates, geographical locations, rank, and branch designation (R&A, SI, SO, MO, X2, FN, etc.) - any explanatory material which you might care to add would be welcomed. Of course, I would not quote from such a statement directly without your express permission.

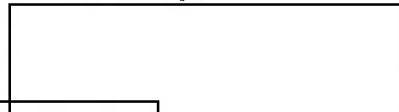
Should you desire any further information, I would be more than happy to oblige. I hope to hear from you in the near future.

25X1



Sincerely,

25X1



25X1

Dear Larry - The request of this [redacted] was sent to an old friend [redacted] with whom I spent last week-end and she asked me whether she should respond - is this a bona fide work, etc. I'm sure you and many others got the same request and have a stock answer handy. Would you be good enough to send her a brief word of advice at the above address? you may recall that [redacted] OSS record included getting captured, the death of a jeep driver, and mysterious release - Maybe you don't want her to submit her record!

25X1

Best to you + Jeanie - we are on the Ope, but are here its pretty damn hot & humid. [redacted] often - As ever [redacted]

25X1

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